

REMARKS

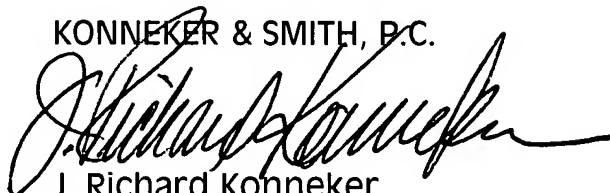
By the foregoing preliminary amendment, new Claim 47 has been added to this application to afford the applicant the breadth and scope of patent protection to which he is entitled. The amendment clearly adds no new matter to the application, and is not being submitted in response to any office action therein.

It is noted that in the originally filed application, the filing fee paid was for 49 total claims and 4 independent claims. However, only 48 total claims and 4 independent claims were actually filed. Thus, the addition in the foregoing preliminary amendment of one additional dependent claim (new Claim 47) brings the actual number of claims pending in this application to 49 total claims and 4 independent claims - the number originally paid for. Accordingly, no fee is due in conjunction with this preliminary amendment.

The Examiner is hereby requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at 972/516-0030 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

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972/516-0030

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,

on April 6, 2004
Diane Sutter